

longer and contractions shorter. And year in and year out, the United States is allowed to consume more of the world's goods than it produces (the difference being approximately defined as the trade deficit, running in excess of \$400 billion a year).

We have listened respectfully as our financial elder statesmen have speculated on the likelihood that digital technology has permanently reduced the level of uncertainty in our commercial life—never mind that last year the information technology industries had no inkling that the demand for their products was beginning to undergo a very old-fashioned collapse.

Even moderate expansions produce their share of misconceived investments, and the 90's boom, the gaudiest on record, was no exception. In the upswing, faith in the American financial leaders bordered on idolatry. Now there is disillusionment. Investors are right to resent Wall Street for its conflicts of interest and to upbraid Alan Greenspan for his wide-eyed embrace of the so-called productivity miracle. But the underlying source of recurring cycles in any economy is the average human being.

The financial historian Max Winkler concluded his tale of the fantastic career of the swindler-financier Ivar Kreguer, the "Swedish match king," with the ancient epigram "Mundus vult decipi; ergo decipitur": The world wants to be deceived; let it therefore be deceived. The Romans might have added, for financial context, that the world is most credulous during bull markets. Prosperity makes it gullible.

*James Grant is the editor of Grant's Interest Rate Observer.*

#### SUPER HARD STEEL

### HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 10, 2001*

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Daniel Branagan, Elizabeth Taylor, Joseph Burch, James Fincke, David Swank, and DeLon Haggard on their upcoming R&D 100 Award to be presented next month in Chicago. The R&D 100 award celebrates the 100 most significant technological achievements for the year 2001 as recognized by R&D Magazine. This talented group of scientists made this unique contribution to American science and industry as a materials research team for the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL). The honor that this team has earned is the 27th such award for the INEEL. Specifically, this team is being recognized for their creation of the new material known as Super Hard Steel.

Super Hard Steel, created through an innovative process that transforms steel alloy into a non-crystalline metallic glass, has hardness properties among the highest ever reported for a metallic substance. Once sprayed on, the Super Hard Steel coating cannot be removed—even with a hammer and chisel. This tough, low cost, wear and corrosion resistant coating is expected to replace, and indeed outperform, much more expensive materials in high-stress machine parts. Already, more than 15 companies are evaluating the metal with an eye towards licensing it and the Department of

Defense is expected to soon begin tests of the metal in various demanding environments. Also, the story of the R&D Magazine's award, which has appeared in publications such as USA Today, has already added to the list of companies pursuing this new material.

The work of this intrepid group of Idahoan scientists will soon benefit the entire American economy as their metallic coating, with wide-ranging applications in products such as knife blades and mining rock crushers, becomes integrated into products that affect the lives of all Americans. Who knows exactly how many machine parts will someday be made with Super Hard Steel. It is innovation such as this that everyone at the INEEL, and the entire state of Idaho, are proud to be a part of.

Mr. Speaker, there are a series of government-funded national laboratories across this great country doing important work akin to this remarkable achievement of the INEEL. The Super Hard Steel Project was funded through the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and the INEEL's own discretionary research fund. As Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham recently said, "... this accomplishment demonstrates the value of government-funded research to the Nation." Breakthroughs such as Super Hard Steel prove beyond a doubt that the investment of taxpayer money in these priceless institutions is well spent. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing these unique individuals and the laboratories that employ them continued success in their important endeavors.

#### HONORING RON ORLOPP

### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 10, 2001*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ron Orlopp for his contributions to the California poultry industry. After many years of dedicated service, Mr. Orlopp is retiring as Chairman of the California Poultry Federation (CPF).

Ron has served as Chairman of the CPF for the past two years; he has served on the CPF board for the past 10 years. During his tenure, Orlopp has enhanced the legislative and regulatory effectiveness in Sacramento and Washington, D.C., expanded the Nutrient Management Certification efforts of the CPF, and assisted in bringing the National Chicken Contest to California. Under his leadership, the CPF Executive Committee visits Washington, D.C. annually and sponsors a trip for members and associates every year. Orlopp's efforts with the legislators is one reason the California poultry industry in one of the most profitable agricultural businesses today.

Ron started working with turkeys at the age of eight. He earned a degree in Avian Science from the University of California at Davis in 1976. Later, he studied accounting at Fresno State University and has passed the state board exam to become a Certified Public Accountant. In addition to his position with the CPF, Orlopp is the president of Orlopp Turkey Breeding Farms and a partner in Orlopp-Caviglia Farms.

Orlopp has long been active in agricultural and civic organizations in the area. He is the current chairman of the Tulare County Agricultural Advisory Committee. He is also the past-president of the Poultry Forum. He is a former trustee with the Cutler-Orosi School Board and coached Little League for 10 years.

Ron was born on October 21, 1954 in Dinuba, California. He has been married to his wife, Mary Jane, since 1981. They have three sons, Bryan, Jason and Kevin. His favorite pastimes are watching his boys play sports, hunting, playing basketball, walking in the hills, and playing golf.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Ron Orlopp for his years of service to the California Poultry Federation and his contributions to the California poultry industry. I wish Mr. Orlopp many more years of continued success.

#### TRIBUTE TO MAGGIE WADE

### HON. RONNIE SHOWS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 10, 2001*

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Maggie Wade, from the great State of Mississippi, who has been named a Congressional Angel in Adoption.

As you know, each year the Congressional Coalition on Adoption holds a national awards ceremony honoring individuals whose outstanding efforts have strengthened families through adoption. In Mississippi, that person is indisputably Maggie Wade.

In Mississippi, Ms. Wade is as well known for her community activism as she is for being the trusted news anchor at WLBT. She averages over 175 speaking engagements per year, in addition to her work with the Jackson Chamber of Commerce Mentoring Project, Southern Christian Services, the Mississippi Public Education Forum, Unicef, Easter Seals, and the State Health Department. A true leader in our community, Ms. Wade has been honored with over 150 awards from the grateful recipients of her dedication to serving others.

As a journalist, Ms. Wade has not squandered the opportunity to bring attention to the most important issues in our nation—including the promotion of adoption. She does more than just deliver the news, she creates it; Since 1986, almost 500 children have been adopted as a result of her compassionate weekly segment "Wednesday's Child." This is a great accomplishment for the children and families of Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege today to honor Maggie Wade for this well deserved award. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Maggie Wade as a true angel in adoption.

#### 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF PICO WATER DISTRICT

### HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 10, 2001*

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I am proud today to rise in recognition of the 75th